

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 10, 19, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, and 39 are amended. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims, and the drawings. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amended claims is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (1) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (2) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution without incorporating additional subject matter; (3) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and/or (4) place the application in better form for appeal, if necessary. Entry is thus requested.

The Examiner and his supervisor are thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative and LG's representative at the June 17, 2004 personal interview. The points discussed are incorporated herein.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-40 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Liu (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0077808). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed at the personal interview, Lui is directed to an intelligent dictionary input method which can be used with a portable terminal such as a cellular telephone. In the Lui method, as a user inputs the letters of a word, the system will search a dictionary of words that

begin with the letters already input by the user. The device will then display a plurality of word options which may be the word that the user intends to input. See Figures 1 and 6-14 of Liu. The user can then select one of the word options by pressing an input key. A method as disclosed in the Liu reference allows a user to input relatively lengthy words by just inputting the first few letters of the word. This can significantly shorten the amount of time required to input words. However, the words are in the English language and thus include only English alphabet letters.

In contrast, claims 1-40 are directed to methods and devices which allow a user to select a special character which corresponds to a normal alphabet letter in an editing mode. For instance, claim 1 recites a method which includes inputting an alphabet letter in an editing mode, and then displaying a plurality of European alphabet letters that correspond to the input alphabet letter. Claim 1 further recites that a series of numbers are associated with each of the displayed European alphabet letters. Claim 1 further recites a step of selecting one of the European alphabet letters using a numeral key on a key pad of the device. Claim 1, as well as the other independent claims, have been amended to further recite that the displayed plurality of European alphabet letters include special characters not used in the English language alphabet. As tentatively agreed at the June 17 personal interview, Liu does not disclose or suggest at least such features.

Further, Liu does not disclose or suggest entering an alphabet letter in an editing mode. The claimed method is directed to editing and allows the user to quickly and easily substitute a

European alphabet letter for a normally input alphabet letter. In contrast, Liu is directed to searching a dictionary database. Further, Liu does not disclose or suggest associating a series of numbers with each of the displayed European alphabet letters. The claimed method, in contrast to Liu, allows a user to select a European alphabet letter corresponding to the input alphabet letter by simply pressing a number key associated with the desired European alphabet letter. Liu further fails to disclose or suggest the claimed combination of independent claim 1.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is allowable over Liu. Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons, and for the additional features recited in these claims.

Independent claims 10 and 19 are also directed to methods of selecting special characters. Claims 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37 and 39 are all directed to devices which allow a user to select a special character using a method similar to that described above in connection with claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that all the independent claims are allowable for reasons similar to those discussed above in connection with claim 1. Specifically, Liu fails to disclose or suggest any of the claimed methods or devices.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Carol L. Druzbeck**, at the telephone number listed below.

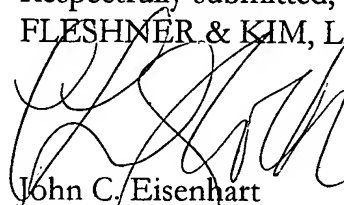
Serial No. 10/036,377

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Reply to Office Action dated March 3, 2004

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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